

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSION SS:

At a regular session of the County Commission in and for the aforesaid County and State, at the James F. Cain Court House Annex, on the 4th day of August, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Randolph County Commissioners, David Kesling and Chris Siler. Commission President Chris See was absent.

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Kesling

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Richard DeBias appeared before the Commission. He said he left exhibits 1-38 with Ms. Hinzman. He said he was here during the June 22, 2022 Randolph County meeting which was appalling to watch because he decided today to share his experience. He said the public comment policy was thrown out the window that day by the Commission merely to gain votes showing even more how much favoritism there is during these meetings. He said he understands because all elected officials are worried about is getting re-elected. While attending and speaking during public comment he was viciously attacked by two individuals, Commissioner Kesling and Sheriff Elbon, not to mention the other Commissioners were also complicit. He said he began in November, 2020 talking about body cams and he was the first one to ever bring up the conversation. He has attended over 20 meetings regarding body cams after Lieutenant Talkington forcefully harassed and threatened his family not to mention he falsified a criminal complaint which all was done intentionally because the powers to be in this County are so thin skinned. He said while speaking during public comment he was personally accused of using foul language, which never happened, being disrespectful, which he wasn't. He said the public comment policy is trying to take away an individual's first amendment rights. He said the freedom of information act policy they put in place is to make it harder and more expensive for individuals to get information the public has a right to. He said others have also complained about the freedom of information act policy. He said the City of Elkins has a great website for freedom of information act policy which has been introduced to the Commission numerous times. He said he has been left out of numerous newspaper articles regarding the bodycams. He said he even tried to call Peggy Ross and left numerous messages but she wouldn't return his call. He said the County applied for the grant at the last minute. He said the Mayor even offered several times to help the County. He said he was even attacked about the mask he wore, which is his first amendment right. He said he was interrupted during the five minute frame before the public comment policy even started. He said he was accused of slander, which never happened. He said there was also falsified minutes about him being escorted out. He said the worst part he wants to deal with is the March 15, 2022 hit piece full advised by a want to be publisher and a person that has no clue what journalism is, with the help of the Sheriff and the newspaper by getting breaking news off of Facebook. When he first talked to the Sheriff, before these meetings, about the bodycams he told him he could not help because he was not there. He said he was the first to ever bring up the issue of body cams in November, 2020. He said they came to his house on an unlawful warrant and the reason he says that is because they had no material facts. He said he has submitted five freedom of information acts and two discoveries and they still haven't provided him the evidence to say he threatened a family court judge. He said they said there was camera's everywhere and there was only two camera's on the front and back porch. He said everything was done inside and Talkington knew that so that's why he took his family inside. He said he has three witnesses so he is not lying. He said they used his disability against him. He said the ones doing all the lying is the Randolph County Sheriff's Department. He said the only reason there is body cams on the deputies and city police right now, is because he started the conversation. He said he is so glad they have them now so the public has recourse against the bad actions of law enforcement that has gone on for decades in the County. He said cops need to be held liable.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on July 21, 2022, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting that was held on July 27, 2022, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Assessor Yokum reported that the new assessment system is up and running in her office. She said they are having a few issues with it, as with any new system. She said it is taking them longer to enter the data into the new system. She said Debbie Isner is coming back to work part time to help out. She said she has money in her extra help line to pay for her wages.

North Central Community Corrections Director, Erin Golden appeared before the Commission. She gave a year end report from 2021-2022. She said last year they provided services to 266 individuals. She went over the statistics from last year. The total saved in regional jail bills last fiscal year was \$1,640,849.75. She said so far this fiscal year they have 90 participants on the program and the program has saved the County \$143,543.75 in regional jail bills. (See copy attached)

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced that the next regular meeting will be held on August 18, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ ACTION:

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM JACK TRIBBLE FROM THE US FOREST SERVICE (See copy attached)

Jack Tribble from the US Forest Service appeared before the Commission. He gave a handout to the Commission of what is going on with US Forest Service. He said the Monongahela National Forest includes more than 919,000 acres of federal land in 10 counties. He said they are trying to sell 30 million board feet of timber this year but the timber buyers are having trouble getting timber cutters. He said recreation is booming with fishing, camping, biking etc. He said they are replacing the bridge going into Stone Coal on the mountain. He also discussed Mon Forest towns.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR LAND PURCHASE FOR US FOREST SERVICE (See copy attached)

Jack Tribble from the US Forest Service said they are working with the Nature Conservancy and the land owner Steve Callen to purchase 350 acres and 94.94 acres near the sinks of Gandy. He said they would like to purchase it and make it open to the public. He said the forest service would pay the appraised value for the land. He said there is other property for sale near there but the owners want more for it than the appraised value. He provided a map of where the property is located that they are in the process of purchasing. Commissioner Siler moved to approve a letter of support for the US Forest Service to purchase the property, as discussed. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO RANDOLPH COUNTY E911 ADVISORY BOARD

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the appointment of Keith Brown to fill the unexpired term of Bob Elbon on the Randolph County E911 Advisory Board. His term will begin immediately and end on June 1, 2024. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF QUOTE FROM CASTO TECHNICAL FOR MAGISTRATE BUILDING

Commissioner Kesling said this is a quote for one 4 ton split system for HVAC at the magistrates building in the amount of \$16,310.00. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the quote from Casto Technical in the amount of \$16,310.00 for HVAC equipment for the magistrate's building. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REIMBURSEMENTS TO RANDOLPH COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Commissioner Kesling said these invoices are for the CDBG grant that the County is the pass through agency on. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the reimbursements to the Randolph County Housing Authority for invoice #12 in the amount of \$2,301.71, invoice #13 in the amount of \$1,559.77 and invoice #13 in the amount of \$1,820.80, and that is to be taken out of the 160 line item. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS/ANNUAL ACCOUNTINGS:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the final settlements/annual accountings on the following (3) estates, as submitted.

Betty Jean Conrad

Charles William Phares

Jonathan Edward Riffle, Jr.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS: (See copies attached)

Commissioner Siler moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$700,000.00 which is part of the ARP funds and this is to divide it into the proper line items to follow guidelines.

Commissioner Siler voted yes – Commissioner Kesling voted yes – Commissioner See was absent – Motion passed

Commissioner Siler moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$86,402.00. This is for the K9 budget. It has to have a separate line item. Commissioner Siler voted yes – Commissioner Kesling voted yes – Commissioner See was absent – Motion passed

DIVISION OF PROPERTY/ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the divisions of property/ erroneous assessments, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

DISTRESSED PROPERTIES: None

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Commissioner Siler moved to pay the bills, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

ADJOURN THE MEETING:

Commissioner Siler moved to adjourn the meeting. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

North Central Community Corrections

Randolph County Office

4- August-2022

	2017-2018*	2018-2019*	2019-2020*	2020-2021*	2021-2022*	2022-2023
Total Number of Offenders	287	310	308	349	266	90
Full Participants	82	78	56	44	14	3
Condition of bond Services	124	149	172	202	115	8
Parole Offenders	25	14	27	47	10	2
Check ins and ds	16	28	15	25	1	3
Probation	15	15	11	1	1	0
Completed Program	20	26	28	12	4	1
Terminated from Program	75	88	86	113	95	6
Reentered Program from	108	123	99	97	75	5
Offenders in Rehab	34	25	25	15	17	1
Community Service Hours	7	3	10	4	6	4
Employment Hours	2,876	3,330	1,030	3,920	1,113	175
BIPPS Obtained	39,592	27,500	26,540	16,720	18,560	1,200
Drug Screens Administered	8 of 10	8-14	9-17	10-20	8-10	0-0
Positives	2,521	2,001	2,697	2,296	2,170	211
Negatives	290	261	394	495	448	36
Community Services Saving Fees Collected	2,231	1,740	2,303	1,801	1,722	175
Amount Saved **	\$25,165.00	\$29,137.50	\$9,012.50	\$34,300.00	\$9,738.75	\$1,531.25
Total Amount Save the County	\$18,319.59	\$31,113.80	\$36,553.00	\$21,955.00	\$25,484.00	\$3,820.00
	\$1,932,557.25	\$1,889,331.25	\$1,921,839.25	\$1,931,001.75	\$1,640,849.75	\$143,543.75
	<u>\$1,957,722.25</u>	<u>\$1,918,468.75</u>	<u>\$1,930,851.75</u>	<u>\$1,965,301.75</u>	<u>\$1,650,588.50</u>	<u>\$145,075.00</u>

\*Totals for Fiscal Years 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, are based on end of the year totals. Totals for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 of the offenders are based on current active offenders on the program. The rest of the Totals for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 are based on the Fiscal Year totals to date.

\*\*Total amount saved based on Regional Jail fees of \$48.25 per day to house an inmate.

## August 2022 US Forest Service Monongahela NF Brief for Randolph Co.

**Summer is busy**- Recreation on forest is very high- Fishing, Camping, Mtn Bike

Concern over flooding areas- we have signed all camping areas in floodplains.

**Trails are being planned and constructed**- rated very high in all surveys as quality-of-life issue. All types of trails.

- Mower Tract/ Cheat Mountain Trails
  - Mower Basin- north
  - Snowshoe connector south
- EAST- Elkins Area Shared Trails -Randolph trails group in preliminary stages
  - Put in for a grant for a master plan connecting Elkins to surrounding mountains (to D&E lands and WV State / USFS managed lands)

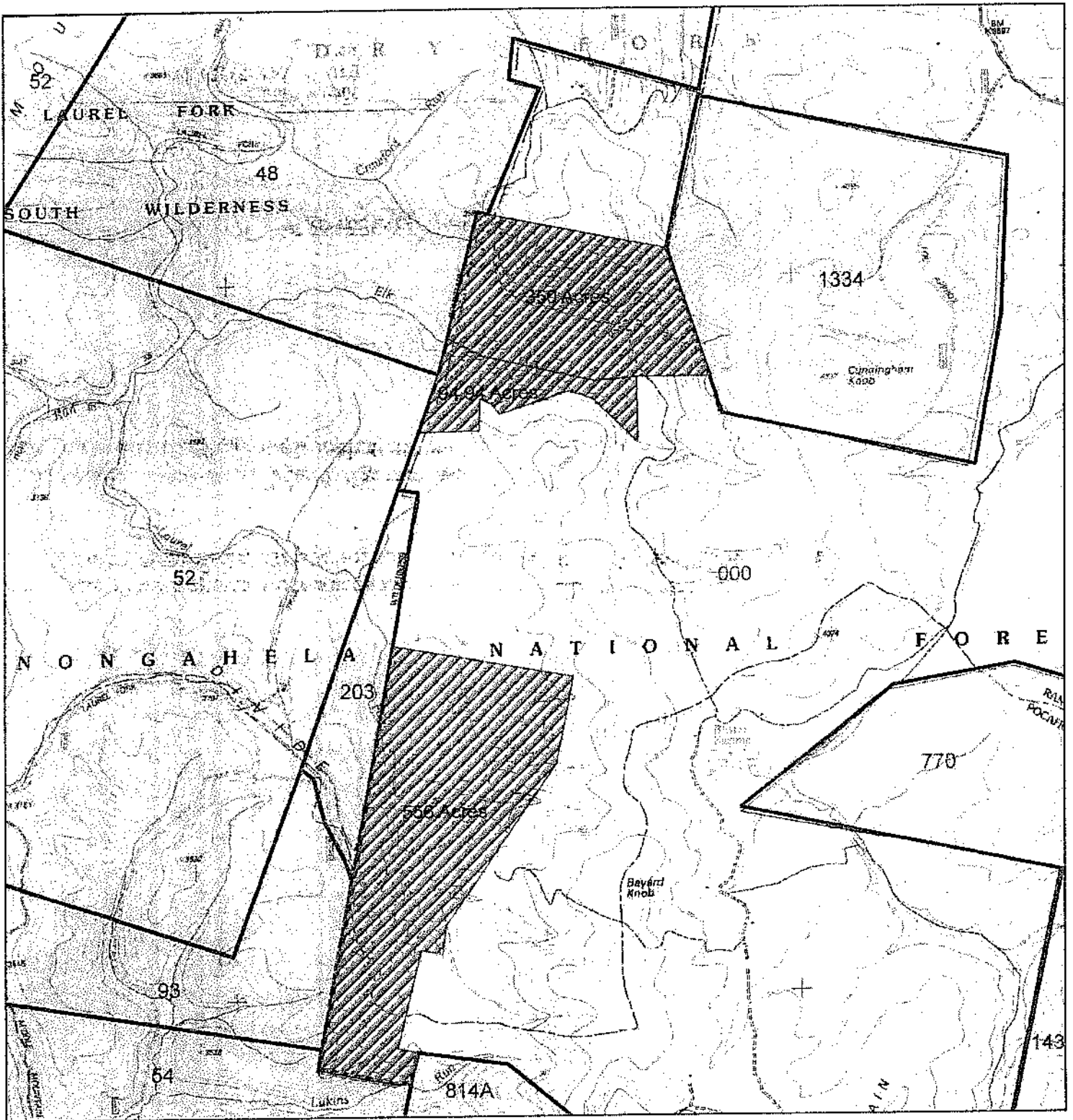
**Timber** -volume offered/sold will be around 30 mmbf this year. Markets are finicky but still moving well.

- 6 active sales in northern part of forest and several south

**Mon Forest Towns**- Coalition of 12 towns within Monongahela NF footprint.

<https://monforesttowns.com/>

- Each town has one voting member and US Forest Service is an advisor only -no vote.
- Working on 501 3c non-profit status to be able to get more grants
- Grants committee- producing grants for combined towns!
- Marketing committee- grant for fall marketing- go online to influence the fall marketing campaign for our area.  
<https://forms.gle/dxkhtU4BFrPQswci7>
  - Looking for high resolution photos for marketing campaign
- Grants received to help small communities develop grants (USDA Rural Grants and Woodlands Grant) Newest grant will provide support for an MFT executive director and helping small communities develop grants.

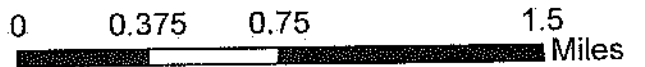


MNF GIS  
 UTM, Zone 17  
 RAH  
 6/2/2022

Greenbrier Ranger District  
 Sinks of Gandy Quadrangle  
 Dry Fork District, Randolph County  
 West Virginia



NOTE: The USDA Forest Service makes no warranty, express or implied regarding the data displayed on this map & reserves the right to correct, modify, update or replace this information without notification.



8/4/22

**State BUDGET REVISION**

ARP Revenue Replacement

Reason for Revision:

**REVENUES:**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	Account Name	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED		INCREASE	DECREASE	REVISED	
		AMOUNT				AMOUNT	
001-382-900	Refunds & Reimbursements			700,000.00			

**EXPENDITURES:**

ACCOUNT NUMBER		PREVIOUSLY APPROVED		INCREASE	DECREASE	REVISED	
		AMOUNT				AMOUNT	
001-424-2-30.00	Community Development			\$500,000.00			
001-430-2-30.06	Revenue Replacement			\$200,000.00			

Total: \$700,000

8-4-2022  
 C siler moved  
 C siler yes  
 D Keating - Yes  
 C see - Absent

State BUDGET REVISION

08/04/2022

**REVENUES:**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AMOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE	REVISED AMOUNT
TOTAL INCREASE/(DECREASE) REVENUES:				0	

**EXPENDITURES:**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AMOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE	REVISED AMOUNT
001 700 103 00	WAGES			\$43,992.00	
001 700 104 00	FICA			\$3,390.00	
001 700 104 01	MEDICARE			\$800.00	
001 700 105 00	INSURANCE			\$11,825.00	
001 700 105 01	ADMIN COST			\$50.00	
001 700 106 00	RETIREMENT			\$4,920.00	
001 700 108 00	OVERTIME			\$10,000.00	
001 700 110 00	OTHER FRINGE			\$350.00	
001 700 111 00	RHBT/OPEB			\$770.00	
001 700 112 00	LONGEVITY			\$305.00	
001 700 221 11	TRAINING			\$3,600.00	
001 700 230 01	CONTRACT SERV			\$1,200.00	
001 700 341 01	DOG SUPPLY			\$1,200.00	
001 700 459 03	VEHICLE KEN SUPPLY			\$4,000.00	
001 736 103 00	K9 WAGES		\$43,992.00		
001 736 104 00	K9 FICA		\$3,390.00		
001 736 104 01	K9 MEDICARE		\$800.00		
001 736 105 00	K9 INSURANCE		\$11,825.00		
001 736 105 01	ADMIN COST		\$50.00		
001 736 106 00	K9 RETIREMENT		\$4,920.00		
001 736 108 00	K9 OVERTIME		\$10,000.00		
001 736 110 00	OTHER FRINGE		\$350.00		
001 736 111 00	RHBT/OPEB		\$770.00		
001 736 112 00	LONGEVITY		\$305.00		
001 736 221 00	K9 TRAINING		\$3,600.00		
001 736 230 00	CONTRACTUAL		\$1,200.00		
001 736 341 00	SUPPLIES		\$1,200.00		
001 736 459 00	K9 EQUIPMENT		\$4,000.00		
TOTAL INCREASE/(DECREASE) EXPENDITURES:			\$86,402.00	\$86,402.00	

Reason for Revision: TO SET UP K9 ACCOUNT

8-4-2022  
 C Siler moved  
 C Siler - YES D Kesling - yes C see - Absent